Approved For Reference 2004/03/11 : CIA-RDP82-00047R000300470002-4 CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY INFORMATION REPORT 25X1A COUNTRY Poland DATE DISTR. 19 0ct 1953 SUBJECT Pre-World War II Mapping Activities in Poland NO. OF PAGES 2 PLACE NO. OF ENCLS. ACQUIRED 25X1A 25X1 SUPPLEMENT TO ACQUIRED BY SOURCE REPORT NO. DATE (OF INFO.) THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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- 1. Q. What work was being done by the Wojskowy Instytut Geograficzny (WIG -Military Geographic Institute) in the 1930s?
 - A. The WIG was seriously hampered by a shortage of funds. As a result only certain limited areas could be covered. The areas with top priority were two broad stretches just north and south of the Pripet Marshes (the Marshes themselves were not considered a likely invasion route), and most of the western border zone. These areas were to be covered by 1:25,000 maps, and certain very restricted areas with fortifications had 1:10,000 maps. The Polish military leaders at that time were very machine gunminded. As a result the maps of fairly level areas were made with fourfoot contours, since four feet was the trajectory height at normal machine gun range. The WIG also prepared basic intelligence maps of 1:100,000 for areas surrounding and including the strategic zones mentioned above. I estimate that by 1939 25-35% of Poland had WIG map coverage.
- 2. Q. Describe the equipment used in the preparation of these maps.
 - A. I believe the WIG made its maps with a lithographic metal plate process, but I am not familiar with the details.
- To what extent were aerial photographs used in preparation of the maps?
 - All surveying was done by transit; no aerial photographs were used.
- Q. Estimate the number of people in Poland trained in the use of stereoplotters.
 - A. I would guess between 20 and 30.

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- 5. Q. What special subject maps were prepared by the WIG?
 - A. I do not know of any special subject maps made by the WIG, except for some geological maps made where defense zones overlapped mining areas. I never saw any of these.
- 6. Q. How many people were employed by the WIG in 1939?
 - A. My guess is that the WIG had about 300 employees in 1939. Of these about 75 were doing field transit work. I cannot break it down any further.
- 7. Q. Please estimate how many square kilometers could be mapped in one field season by a single topographer and his helpers with sufficient accuracy for the 1:25,000 map series.
 - A. About 400 square kilometers.
- 8. Q. What happened to WIG personnel and equipment after 1939?
 - A. A small nucleus of the WIG was taken to London. There the personnel worked with the British, and the British War Office printed copies of WIG maps for the RAF and for the Polish paratroopers dropped into Poland. I also believe that some additional WIG maps were smuggled out of Poland to London during the German occupation. Most of the equipment, however, was taken over by the Germans. I believe the Germans took all WIG equipment back to Germany with them when they left Poland.
- 9. Q. What map depots existed in Poland in 1939?
 - A. Each of the 10 military districts in Poland had a small WIG unit attached to it with a supply of local maps. However, I think that the only comprehensive map depot was at the WIG offices on Aleja Gerozolinska (Jerusalem Street) in Warsaw.

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